

KEY BOARD KNIGHTS.

Their Struggle With the Powerful Corporation.

Both Sides Claim a Victory, But That of the Western Union Is Rather Slim—No One Knows How Long It Will Last.

NEW YORK, July 19.—At precisely 12 o'clock, Washington reckoning, several hundred operators in the Western Union Telegraph room laid down their utensils and started for the halls. Superintendent Humeston, who was present, said the number to leave was about what had been expected from reports made to the company.

In the operating room were stationed several policemen, and these, together with the officials who were present, asked the strikers to move out as rapidly as possible and to leave the building. Operators who remained at their keys did very little work at first, and were interested spectators.

Long lines of operators were soon filing down stairs. On their faces were depicted various emotions. A majority were hilarious, but there were not wanting those whose features bore traces of uncertainty and fear for the future.

There was no disturbance on the Am. Press Association wires which tap Washington, Baltimore & Philadelphia with their tributary territory, those wires being manned by Press Association telegraphers, who have made no demand and have no grievance.

The general sentiment of the operators and officials was that the news of the country would be taken care of, operators having only the kindest feeling for the press.

CINCINNATI, July 19.—The Western Union had 98 operators in the main office at Fourth and Vine, and forty in the branch offices throughout the city, with about seventy-five linemen, etc. The B. & Co. had fifteen operators and twenty-five men altogether, while the Mutual Union only employed seven. The Telegraphic Brotherhood has 175 members, but embraces others employed in the offices besides operators. There were a few operators in the city who were not members, and, taking those and some, old operators, Mr. Paige has secured about twenty-five, with whom he will do the best he can.

The present strike, being general, is much larger and more important than that of 1870. Fully 85 per cent of the 15,000 Western Union operators belong to the Brotherhood, a much larger proportion than the company supposed.

At the preconcerted signal all was in readiness, and when the hands of the clock reached 11:30 a. m., fifty-six of the Western Union operators stood up and left the office, leaving twelve men to attend to the business of the day. "Trump, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching," sung out one of the fifty-six, as the cavalcade filed down the stairs. Another of the poets, who shall be nameless, as his life is not assured, sang:

The key and the sounder are mute on the shelf
Where they clicked like repeaters before,
And the operator now will look out for himself,
Leaving Jay Gould decidedly sore.

For his profits so thundering
On tick, tick, tick, tick;
His employees plundering
On tick, tick, tick, tick,
Have stopped short, not to go again
Till he pays the operators more.

This was received with loud echoes, and the verse will be repeated ad libitum and ad nauseum.

At the Mutual Union the whole seven adjourned to discuss their prospects as strikers, leaving no one to look after the interests of the office but the boy who sweeps out and the cat.

At the same hour the whole B. & O. force, 15 in number, arose, bowed three times to the east, solemnly applied each dexter thumb to each nasal prominence, and, with this grand hailing sign to the source of watered stock and small salaries, went forth into the wide world to seek other lines to conquer.

"We'll fight it on these lines if it takes all summer."—Many operators.

CHICAGO, July 19.—At 12 o'clock, Washington time, the main body of the army of operators in the Western Union office in this city went out on the strike.

It is estimated that over 100 operators went out. There was some cheering as they filed out but nothing boisterous.

Outside the building a great crowd had gathered to witness the departure of the operators, and there was some cheering as the head of the column of strikers made its appearance.

There are about forty, all told, left at their instruments.

Boston, July 19.—All the operators here but two have struck. The women operators also have gone out, but four out of the twenty-five being left.

Columbus, O., July 19.—Only one man has struck in the operating rooms here thus far.

NEW YORK, July 20.—At the meeting of the operators yesterday afternoon addresses were made approving the strike and a resolution passed to abstain from the use of intoxicants during the continuance of the strike. John Campbell, of the telegraphers executive committee, received a letter from the President of the Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers Association of Pittsburgh, wishing the telegraphers movement every success. Campbell sent a reply, saying the telegraphers would do nothing to disgrace the cause of labor, but that at the same time they were determined that their rights should be respected and their grievances redressed. Lillie Devereux Blake sent a letter of sympathy. District Assembly No. 2, of the Knights of Labor, of Pittsburgh, telegraphed fraternal greetings. The general business of the West-

ern Union Telegraph Company was in such a satisfactory condition last evening that General Eckert, the acting President, went home, as usual, to Long Branch. One of the best operators in the recent employ of the Western Union says "the outlook is bad for the boys." The fact, he says, that such a number of first class operators remained at the keys, and the places of so many others were promptly supplied, makes the situation appear to him as if the strikers were beaten on the very first day.

The only criminal act thus far reported is that a lineman cut a wire at Asbury Park. Dispatches East, North and South show the condition of affairs similar to that described in the press dispatches from the West.

The cable lines are all fully manned, and no trouble is anticipated. The cable operators at North Sydney, Nova Scotia, held a meeting after the strike occurred, and decided to remain at their posts, and business has not been delayed.

Mr. Somerville said business had fallen off about 20 per cent. to-day and this evening, which was merely the effect of the strike, and this was principally stock business. Vice President May, of the American Rapid Telegraph Company, said they had very little delay in business, because they had at once called into active service the automatic instruments, and with these in operation he anticipated no trouble.

CINCINNATI, July 20.—Brokers and bankers felt the effects of the interruption of telegraphic communications yesterday more than any other class. One prominent broker telegraphed to New York at 11 o'clock a. m. to sell certain stocks, and before he could get an answer the strike came, and he was left in a state of uncertainty, and was as uneasy as a fish out of water.

Messrs. Pitts H. Burt & Co., bankers, were fortunate in having a bookkeeper who is also an operator. He took temporary charge of the branch office at Third and Walnut for the transaction of their own matter and was independent. The confusion was the greatest at the very hour when the merchants were on 'change, from 12 to 1 o'clock. The operators were all withdrawn except one, and he was unable to do all the business. It was expected that no reports would be received to-day, but the prospects seemed better last night for a pretty full corps of operators to-day on 'change. Very much of the commercial business that has been done by telegraph can be done by mail, so that the inconvenience in that direction will be but partial and temporary.

Many business men were disposed to take a gloomy view of the situation at first, but by closing time in the evening they had in a measure received their confidence and decided to wait for developments. The railroads are not affected, their operators remaining on duty, but doing no commercial business. The Kentucky Central sent ten men over to Cincinnati last night, who reported for duty to Mr. Miller. The outlook is in favor of the company at present, but a day may change the whole aspect of things.

The report from the Indianapolis district, embracing Indiana, Eastern Ohio and Western Illinois, shows all points, except three or four, with full forces. F. H. Tubbs, superintendent of the Chicago district, reports eighty good operators at work immediately after the strike, and business practically clear at 8 o'clock, with constant accessions to the ranks. The Wheatstone system between Chicago and New York was worked to the fullest capacity ever since the strike, and is doing excellent work. Reports from the Chicago district embracing most of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Dakota show nearly full forces at most points, and business generally clear.

Reports are received by the officials of the company here from superintendent at various points to the following effect:

St. Louis.—We are working every circuit; sixty-nine operators, the full day force, are on duty.

Cleveland.—Good working forces are on duty at Cleveland, Detroit and Toledo and more are coming in.

Minneapolis.—All circuits were manned by 3 p. m.

Sau Francisco.—Our full regular force is twenty-eight operators. Sixteen have joined the strike. All vacancies will be filled.

St. Joseph, Mo.—A full force returned to work, and claim it was through a misunderstanding.

Des Moines.—Only one striker.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 20.—Two-thirds of the operators in the Western Union left their desks. There are now eighteen first-class operators on duty, and the ranks are filling up rapidly. At the larger offices in the State outside about half the force left their desks. Logansport, Lafayette, and Richmond being the exception, at which points a full force remained on duty. The telegraph officials express an opinion that they can weather the storm and fill the strikers' places fully in a short time.

NEW YORK, July 20.—The men are not confident of success, and expect to be out a week or ten days; but they will use every means in the shape of persuasion to frustrate the endeavors of the companies to secure hands. They base their hopes to a great extent on the numerous and serious errors which must necessarily ensue from the employment of green hands.

CHICAGO, July 20.—The force at work in the Western Union office has been increased to thirty-two operators, and Manager Lloyd said he would have several more to-day. In the Baltimore & Ohio, Mutual Union, and American Rapid offices there was no change, and all, except the Baltimore & Ohio, were refusing business.

St. Louis, July 20.—Of forty-five who abandoned their post, about one-half were women and girls. Those who do not join the strikers quietly remained at their instruments, and in ten minutes the flurry was over and the office was again ready for business. The force now in the office numbers about fifty, and business is moving with reasonable celerity to all the chief trade centers of the country, excepting New Orleans, which has not yet been heard from. Fully sixty-five operators can be mustered here for work, and this office may be regarded as well manned and able to transact all business offered.

THE CUMBERLANDS.

The Lone Woman of the Wilderness.

A Twenty Years' Search for the Mine of the Dollar Maker in the Heart of "The Calaboose."

Staff Cor. of the Am. Press Association.

CAMPTON, Ky., July 20.—In my last I gave you the tradition of the Swift silver mine. I have heard several versions of it, one of them at least given by "the oldest inhabitant." But that which I wrote was furnished me by a remarkable woman, whom I met here, Perkins by name. She is fifty-four years of age and claims to be in possession of an original chart drawn by Swift and left by him in the possession of her ancestors, on which are given as nearly as he can approximate it the latitude and longitude of his mine and the physical features of its locality. Her grand or great grand parents, I forgot which, were familiar acquaintances of the dollar maker, who was domiciled with them after he became blind. Mrs. P. was educated liberally in Louisville, where she has a married daughter. So firm was the belief in the existence of Swift's mine, in her family, and so nearly did the chart alluded to seem to fix its locality that Mrs. P. and her husband moved into Wolf county, with the view and in the expectation of finding the mine. Guided by the chart, they located in the very heart of that wild solitude, which as I said, has since been named "the Calaboose." They erected a comfortable log house, and entered upon their search for the mine. Twenty-two years ago her husband died, and the daughter having married and settled in Louisville, the old lady was left alone to prosecute the search. That has been the one object of her existence all these years. She has climbed all over the cliffs and explored perhaps every chasm. With the mail carrier for a guide, the writer mother by appointment. At the summit of a broken ridge we tied our horses. A thousand feet below us ran Swift's Creek. We could not see it at the base of the freestone cliffs. Descending by a sheep path, sometimes under the hot sun on the shelving sides of the cliff, sometimes lost in semi-darkness in the caverns, we made our tedious descent to the rendezvous. Two-thirds of the way down I looked up to the right where perpendicular sandstone cliffs rose some five hundred feet above our level. Here we were joined by a ragged young mountaineer, who appeared to be a sort of body guard or servant of the old lady. I stopped to take a breathing spell and wipe the perspiration from my brow, and a question was suggested.

"How," I inquired, "does she manage to climb about among these rocks?"

"Do you see that ledge?" asked the youth, while pointing to the precipice mentioned. I saw a line on the face of it about 300 feet above, which might be a ledge.

"Well, sir, I've seen her there. That ain't nowhere she can't go," said he, in admiring tones. Lean still farther, and about twenty feet above the bed of the stream we crossed the gorge on a fallen pine tree. Sitting on the other side was the old lady, amusing herself with a solitary companion, a huge turtle. I found her well educated and intelligent. Geology was her forte and she talked learnedly of the formation of the Cumberland.

She had, as she supposed right there found the locality of Swift's mine, but through financial embarrassment was without the means of sinking a shaft. She pointed out the exact spot, as she supposed, where Swift had sunk his shaft and also of the furnace where he had smelted his ore. The former had been filled up and the accumulations of nearly a century deposited over it. Along in her log tenement comfortably furnished, with her library for a companion, lives the lone woman of the wilderness.

Near the locality runs the old Indian trail from the mouth of the Big Sandy to the Three Forks of the Kentucky. Along this trail are Indian mountains and signs innumerable. Directed by a guide the writer struck that ancient highway of the aborigines. The first evidence of it occurs less than two miles from Campton, its direction being west of south, and running along the summits of successive ridges. Where it left the spur of a ridge, there was a face of bare rock at an inclination of about forty-five degrees. From the top to the bottom of this were out foot holds for the ponies to descend and climb it. Along the summits the path is yet distinctly marked, sometimes by bare rock which the element have kept by the hoofs of ponies and the moccasins of the red men. For miles on either side are traces of the tribes that year after year, went down into the neutral territory, the great wilderness, the dark and bloody ground, to hunt or fight with the enemies among the southern tribes. Turkey feet are found carved on the face of freestone cliffs, with deer heads, arrow heads and sometimes the crude head of a warrior. What were the significance of these several "Indian signs" save that they were both war and hunting signs, is not known. Here and there upon the summits are to be found the cairns of the warriors who have entered upon their post mortem journey to the happy hunting fields. Whenever found they are at once dispelled, so that it is difficult to find one intact. What, with the pure streams well supplied with fish, the wild flowers and flowering shrubs innumerable, the cool, pure atmosphere and the grand scenery, it is a wonder that the Cumberlanders are not more frequently visited in summer by artists, sportsmen and others.

SHAD.

Tallow and Provision Exports.

WASHINGTON July 20.—The exports of

provisions, tallow and dairy products, for the six months ended June 13, 1883, were \$52,515,437, against \$50,708,190 in the same time in 1882. The exports of provisions and tallow for the eight months ended June 13, 1883, were \$65,086,580, against \$65,474,116 in the same period in 1872. The exports of dairy products for the two months ended June 13, 1883, were \$2,990,413, against \$2,290,384 in the same in 1882.

HERO AND HEROINE.

But Another Lady Claims the Former, and Thus the Romance Is Spoiled.

LONG BRANCH, N. Y., July 20.—Miss Millie Coombs, a beautiful orphan of seventeen, and an heiress with some \$100,000 in her own right, arrived here from St. Louis with her aunt on Monday of last week. They took rooms temporarily at the Morris Cottage.

Miss Coombs, accompanied by two ladies and a male cousin, went into the surf. When about 200 feet from her companion a scream from the young lady told everybody that she was in danger. In the meantime the keeper launched the life-boat and rowed to the girl. Suddenly, a dark object was seen to mount a wave and a cry was heard, "Here! Here!" The boat was directed towards the spot and two persons climbed into it. They were Miss Coombs and her rescuer, William Whittlesey, who had been swimming some distance out in the sea.

The cousin of Miss Coombs approached young Whittlesey, shook him heartily by the hand and, placing a well-filled wallet in Whittlesey's hand, said: "Here, take this."

"Oh, no," replied the young man, "I only owe my duty," and all the persuasions could not tempt the young man to accept the proffered wallet. Whittlesey is twenty-one years of age and is a clerk in a railway office at Iowa City.

To a reporter Miss Coombs said: "I have been dying all my life to be the victim of some real good romance, and I guess I have got one that will last me for some time."

The ladies who heard the story exclaimed that it was a real shame that Mr. Whittlesey was engaged to be married to an estimable young lady residing at Sioux City. There is every likelihood that young Whittlesey will start out on his voyage with much better prospects than a railroad clerk's salary can give.

WOMAN BROKER SUED.

Suit and Counter Suit Growing Out of Speculations.

PHILADELPHIA, July 20.—Marion E. McDowell, who, under the name of Mrs. Dow, managed to sink \$20,000 of money entrusted to her for speculation by confiding women, before her business was broken up by quasi criminal proceedings entered against her by some of her patrons, has been made a defendant in three new actions, the plaintiffs in which aver that they entrusted money to Mrs. McDowell at various times to be used for their benefit, but that no return was made to them.

Suit was entered by her some time since against Narr & Gerlach, who were her brokers, to recover about \$20,000 which she lost through them on the grounds that, being a married woman, her contracts were not valid. This action will shortly come on for trial. Suit against her brokers has, it is said, been indirectly the means at this late day of bringing about the new suits against herself, and will give rise to a number of other actions. If the woman broker should be successful it is her intention, it is declared, to divide all that she may recover from Narr & Gerlach among the trustful lambs from whom she received it. Her counsel would take her case on no other consideration. Any recovery that she may obtain against the brokers will be a legal subject of attachment on the part of the plaintiffs or any others who may obtain a verdict against her. It is not expected that she will make any defense to the present suits.

IRISH FUNDS.

A Charge and Counter-Charge in regard to the Disposition of \$100,000.

NEW YORK, July 20.—O'Donovan Rossa accuses Patrick Egan of complicity in the misuse of funds sent to Ireland to aid the no-rent movement. He alleges that \$100,000 of the money so sent was not used for furtherance of the movement, but to the contrary devoted to the welfare of outsiders and to aid their recuperation for the work of fighting England. He further charges that Egan, who was interested in the transportation of the money, was fully aware of the perversion of the funds. Egan indignantly denies this statement, and states that all money sent was used for the purpose for which it was collected. In reply Rossa reiterates his charges, and in addition challenges Egan to meet him in the presence of Congressman John F. Finerty and Dennis O'Connor, of Chicago, or in the presence of Patrick Ford and Major Horgan, of this city, both of them answering all questions under oath. To this Egan, who is now in Denver, Col., has as yet not replied.

Lottery Dividends.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Colonel Roberts gives the following information as to the profits of the Louisiana Lottery Company: The capital stock of the concern is now worth about five times its par value, and its dividends have been enormous. Last year it divided 70 per cent. among its stockholders. Its stock is all in the hands of a few persons. The largest owner is Mr. Charles T. Howard, who has 6,000 shares, their par value being \$600,000. His dividend last year was \$420,000. Mr. John A. Morris is the next largest owner. He has 4,000 shares, and last year he received \$280,000.

THE CAUSE OF CUBA.

Guerrilla Warfare in the Ever-Faithful Isle.

Pronouncements By General Bonachea, Chief of the Vanguard—Dynamite to be Employed in the War for Cuban Independence.

NEW YORK, July 19.—General Ramon Leoncandia Bonachea has just arrived in this city from Key West to promote the movement among the Cubans residing in the United States toward aiding their Republican brethren in the "Ever-Faithful Isle" to throw off the Cuban yoke. He is about five feet eleven inches in height, black curly hair; his eyes are small and piercing, while his nose, peaked and long, betrays the martial and commanding nature that has placed him at the head of the present opposition of Cuba to Spain. He participated during the years of the revolution in over 100 battles. After the peace at St. John's on the 28th of September, 1878, General Bonachea continued a guerrilla warfare in Cuba for eighteen months.

"I am told," said a reporter to him, "that the object of your visit to New York is to awaken a patriotic interest in the bosom of our resident Cubans, and to enlist their aid in the impending struggle against Spain?"

"Here is a proclamation that I have just issued, which not only will answer your question but reveal to you my sentiments and what I desire to accomplish. I have just concluded mailing and forwarding by means of officials of steamships 500 of these proclamations to sympathizers and those deeply interested in the movement pending in Cuba."

At the head of the proclamation stands the coat-of-arms of the Cuban Republic, which is a shield bearing a sun rising over the sea, a key, a palm tree and other emblems; while above is a cap of liberty, and at the tides a stand of colors of the republic.

"What do you think about the news from Cuba, informing us that Agüero Castro Penez, Rabin and Montesguero are pillaging the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Santa Clara?" asked the reporter.

This announcement caused the General's eyes to snap with anger, and he replied that their operations could not be called pillaging. "They are all regularly attached to the liberating army," said he. "The Spanish have applied the title of 'bandits' to them, but it is a false one. I have instructed them to carry on a desultory guerrilla warfare and to destroy all the property they can and to give and take no quarter. The money secured is to be devoted solely to the purposes of war."

The reporter was further informed that a public meeting of Cubans will probably be held in this city at Masonic Hall some day next week. The Revolutionary Committee, at No. 827 Sixth avenue, and the "Independence"—both Cuban clubs—are in existence in this city, he was told, and are every day enrolling new members.

The most approved modern engines of war of a dynamite nature are being collected and prepared for shipment by men under my orders at New Orleans. We expect, and will doubtless receive assistance of a material nature from brethren in San Domingo, Mexico, Jamaica, and Honduras. Revolutionary parties are constantly organizing in Cuba, and their members correspond by cipher. No, sir, we are not afraid of treachery overthrowing our designs or defeating our object. Of course a number of Cubans adhere to the cause of Spain through interest but the majority, yes, the great majority, are with us.

In Jamaica are Generals Juan D. Villegas, Colonels Salvador Rosero, Federico Urbina and others, "only too eager for the fray."

"The present warfare, called 'brigandage' by the Spaniards," explained General Bonachea, "has been going on about three months. Recently a fight took place between Agüero and the Spanish troops near Colon. The patriots lost ten men and the troops thirty in the engagement. Agüero also recently sacked a Spanish village in the jurisdiction of Colon. His men are instructed to kill all the stock and cattle they can in order to prevent as far as possible the cultivation of the estates. The principal seat of their operation at present is within the jurisdiction of Colon."

"Do you intend to participate in person in this warfare?"

"Yes, sir; I shall claim that honor, and will soon depart with a company of men, with whom I will take part in the vicissitudes and glories of battle. The knowledge that our common country is groaning beneath the heel of tyranny, and that 6,000 of our countrymen are wearing their lives away in Spanish fortresses on the meagre allowance of twenty cents a day, while their families are starving or in want in Cuba, will be sufficient either to urge us on to victory or annihilation."

Reduced Sales of Postage Stamps.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The figures of sales of postage stamps and stamped envelopes at the post-offices throughout the country for the quarter ending June 30, 1883, indicate a falling off in the demand. Although the sales for the quarter were greater than for the quarter ending March 30, the percentage of increase was smaller than that for the corresponding quarter of last year over the quarter which immediately preceded it. This falling off in sales is not to be considered as evidence of "prospective continued reduction in the postal revenues after the reduced rates take effect, but simply indicates that the stock in the hands of the public is being reduced in anticipation of the issue of the new stamps; that stamps and stamped envelopes, on which the Government has already realized, are being used up, and that no orders are coming in for any large quantities of these articles of the present denominations.